

3 million people were affected and 230,000 are estimated to have died. Those that survived are facing unimaginable conditions with a crumbling infrastructure that has hindered the delivery of humanitarian aid.

If there is a silver lining to this unimaginable tragedy, it is that out of this, the Haitian people have been given the incredible opportunity to right the wrongs of the past and rebuild their nation stronger than ever before. Millions of dollars in aid have flooded into the country and thousands of aid organizations are committed to building a sustainable recovery.

Immediately following the earthquake, we all witnessed countless foreign governments and aid organizations pledging to stand with Haiti, and I have been inspired by the countless individuals throughout the globe who have donated their talents and services to the recovery and the many more who are eager to help, but simply don't know how.

We cannot let this opportunity go to waste. However, with the possibility to do good comes the very real possibility of waste, duplication, and inefficiencies in the rebuilding and recovery process.

Under this bill, the major stakeholders in the rebuilding, along with other interested parties, will come together to share their knowledge and best practices and identify gaps in the recovery process. It is my hope that out of this Conference, opportunities for collaboration and coordination in projects big and small will emerge.

The Conference will also highlight innovative ideas for rebuilding and redevelopment in Haiti, from inexpensive hurricane- and earthquake-proof housing and green building techniques to sustainable economic practices and urban development. There are countless companies and individuals who have developed groundbreaking concepts in response to this tragedy, but they have yet to be connected with those who can put these ideas into practices or with others pursuing similar goals who may be able to improve upon their initiatives. Innovation does not happen in a bubble; great things can happen when great minds come together.

Further, Haitians living abroad are eager to help their brothers and sisters in Haiti, but many simply do not know where to begin. The White House Conference on Haiti will tap the immense resource that is the Haitian Diaspora by bringing their abilities together with those who are in a position to use them.

Most importantly however, the White House Conference on Haiti will help ensure that the challenges facing the Haitian people remain in the public eye and in the minds of all Americans.

While the United States has been instrumental in the recovery and rebuilding from countless natural and man-made disasters throughout the world, few international tragedies have had as deep an impact on the United States, and particularly the State of Florida, as this one.

Helping our Haitian neighbors is not only the right thing to do; it is also in our own Nation's best interests. Just a stone's throw from our shores, instability in Haiti impacts our own economy and immigration levels.

Our nation's rapid, comprehensive response, from our Government down to everyday Americans, has been commendable, but the President and this administration are in a position to do more. This legislation would not

be a costly endeavor, but could stand to save millions of dollars that could be used to improve the lives of the Haitian people for generations to come.

At a time of extreme instability and crisis, the United States must do all within its power to help ensure a long-term sustainable recovery for Haiti.

I ask my colleagues to support this legislation and urge the House leadership to bring it swiftly to the House floor for consideration.

#### HONORING MRS. FAYE CAIN SEARS

#### HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 13, 2010*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Faye Cain Sears of Somerset, Kentucky on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

Mrs. Sears has long been admired by her community. The mother of four children and blessed with many grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews, she has been a wonderful Christian example to them and the numerous friends and acquaintances she has known over the years. Her devotion to God, her family, and her community have been the driving force of her long life.

While her husband, Goebel Sears, served our nation in the Navy during World War Two, Faye moved to New York City, where she worked at the Woolworth Company in Brooklyn. Upon returning to Kentucky, she worked tirelessly in the community as an election officer, precinct chairwoman, and attended the inauguration of several Kentucky governors. She has also been awarded the prestigious "Kentucky Colonel" award for her involvement. During her spare time she is active in the Senior Friends organization, enjoys gardening and, of course, University of Kentucky basketball.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring Mrs. Faye Cain Sears who throughout her life has continued to bless all those who know her and cherish her friendship and love. I am proud to have her in my home community and honored to serve her in the House of Representatives. Her 100th birthday is only the latest in a long list of milestones in her life, and I am sure there will be many more.

#### RECOGNIZING DR. MARTIN LUTHER LUTHERAN CHURCH OF BROOKLYN, OHIO

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 13, 2010*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Martin Luther Lutheran Church of Brooklyn, Ohio as they celebrate one hundred years of service to the community.

The legacy of Dr. Martin Luther Lutheran Church began in 1910 with the faith of several immigrant families who came to Cleveland from Czechoslovakia in search of a better life.

The original church was built on West 14th Street in the Tremont neighborhood of Cleveland. In the 1960s, the church was demolished to make way for interstate highway construction, including Interstate 71. Thanks to the dedication and generous contributions of church members, a new home was found in Brooklyn, Ohio, where the church has remained for more than forty years.

Today, the church provides social activities and events for all ages. Church members are brought together by the musical talents of the Praise Band, as well as programs such as the weekly Children's Sermon. Many members volunteer time at fish fries and other events, including fund raising projects to help people in need.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing Dr. Martin Luther Lutheran Church of Brooklyn, Ohio as they celebrate their one hundred year anniversary. Although the church has evolved in many ways over the past century, its mission has remained the same: to provide a warm and friendly place for families and individuals of all backgrounds to worship; to support each other; and to reach out and help others in need.

#### A TRIBUTE TO MARY HATWOOD FUTRELL

#### HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 13, 2010*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mary Hatwood Futrell on her remarkable career as the Dean of the Graduate School of Education and Human Development at The George Washington University. Many in this body will remember Dr. Futrell from her decades of involvement and leadership at the National Education Association, where she was president from 1983 to 1989.

Throughout her entire distinguished career, Dr. Futrell has been a trailblazer in Virginia and the national education debate. Born and raised in Altavista, Virginia, she graduated from Dunbar High School in Lynchburg and received a Business Education Degree from Virginia State University. In 1965, she helped integrate the teaching staff at George Washington High School in Alexandria, where she would continue to teach until 1980—becoming chair of her department and an active participant in the Alexandria and Virginia Education Associations.

In 1968, Dr. Futrell became the first African American president of the Virginia Education Association. She fought hard for teachers' rights, and in that same year she led a march of 7,000 teachers and public school employees on Richmond to protest a Virginia Supreme Court ruling striking down collective bargaining rights for public employees. At the time, it was one of the largest marches ever to take place in the history of Virginia.

Dr. Futrell became president of the National Education Association in 1983. There she served an unprecedented three terms. She worked tirelessly to strengthen and grow the association, move it to take forceful positions on collective bargaining rights, and to bring a higher profile to important issues like drop-out rates and changing school curriculum needs.